



# Press Release

## USDA FOREST SERVICE

### Rocky Mountain Region

740 Simms Street Golden, CO 80401

**Contact:** Mary Ann Chambers 970 295 6676

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### **More Campground Closures Ahead For Three National Forests**

**Denver Colo. April 18, 2008—** Forest Service officials concerned about visitor and employee safety have identified campgrounds and picnic areas that will be closed for the season or experience delayed openings due to hazards caused by bark-beetle killed trees. Twenty-one out of 223 recreation sites, mainly campgrounds and picnic areas across three National Forests in northern Colorado and southeastern Wyoming will be closed, and 17 will experience delayed openings this summer due to the bark beetle epidemic (see the attached list for details). The epidemic will likely require further treatments at additional recreation sites.

The closures and delays will occur on the Arapaho and Roosevelt, Medicine Bow and Routt and the White River, National Forests.

“Public safety is our number one priority. Beetle-killed trees in campgrounds and picnic areas are a hazard because they can fall anytime as the roots start to rot. Everyone needs to be aware of their surroundings and wind conditions in areas where trees have been killed by the mountain pine beetle,” said Clint Kyhl, commander of the Rocky Mountain Region Bark Beetle Incident Management Team.

Work has already started in some areas. Several options for cutting and removing the trees, including using experienced Forest Service hotshot fire crews and prison fire crews, are being explored.

A number of forest campgrounds have already had beetle-killed hazard trees removed. For instance, Heaton Bay Campground on Dillon Reservoir was closed, last year, but it is expected to be open by summer.

There are still many great places to camp and explore on the National Forests. To check the status of any campground, visit [www.fs.fed.us/r2/recreation/camping/campgroundlist](http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/recreation/camping/campgroundlist), or call the local Forest Service office for more information. Reservations for most campgrounds can be made on [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) or by calling 1-877-444-6777. For general information about the bark beetle epidemic go to [www.fs.fed.us/r2/bark-beetle](http://www.fs.fed.us/r2/bark-beetle).

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**Note to Editors: Please see that attached list of campground closures and delays.**

### Campground Closures and Delays

National Forest	Ranger District	NAME	Size (# of Units)	Type of Closure	Remarks
Arapaho/Roosevelt	Sulphur (near Granby Colorado): 970 887-4100	Green Ridge	78	Partial	7 sites in loop B
		Horseshoe	7	Delayed	Expected Opening 6/30/08,
		South Fork	21	Delayed	Expected Opening by 6/30/08, closure on Group Site. 3-4 week delay, Closed since 2006.
		Sugarloaf	11	Delayed	Expect Opening by 6/30/08,
		Williams Fork	5	Delayed	Expect Opening by 6/30/08,
	Canyon Lakes (covering the northern Front Range of Colorado): 970 295-6700	Chambers Lake Campground	52	Delayed	Delay until June 27. 1-2 week delay,
Medicine Bow-Routt	Brush Crk/Hayden (around Saratoga Wyoming) 307 326-5258	RYAN PARK CG and Group Site	48	Partial	Group site closed. Delay on rest of CG opening until 7/15.
		SOUTH BRUSH CREEK CG	20	Partial	One loop to be opening.
		SILVER LAKE CG	17	Closed	CG has been closed for 4 years because of hazard trees.
		HOG PARK CG (FORMERLY LAKE VIEW)	50	Closed	38 acres of treatment. Closed for entire season as trees are removed.
		HOG PARK Picnic ground	15	Closed	Closed for entire season as trees are removed
		LAKE VIEW Picnicground	12	Partial	Limited access to boat ramp. Expect opening 7/15.

National Forest	Ranger District	NAME	Size (# of Units)	Type of Closure	Remarks
Medicine Bow- Routt	Hahns PK/Bears Ears( near Steamboat Colorado) 970 879-1870	HAHNS PEAK LAKE CG	10	Closed	Closed for construction and tree removal.
		SEEDHOUSE CG	22	Partial	Open for July only.
		SEEDHOUSE GROUP CG	25	Partial	Open for July only.
		SEEDHOUSE Trailhead	26	Closed	Closed for entire season as trees are removed
		GRANITE CG	12	Closed	Closed for entire season as trees are removed
		GRANITE PG	7	Closed	Closed for entire season as trees are removed
		HINMAN	13	Delayed	
		MEADOWS CG	10	Delayed	Expected to open 7/15. May open only one loop.
		FERNDAL PG	15	Closed	Closed for entire season as trees are removed
	Parks (near Walden and Kremmling Colorado) 970 723-8204.	BIG CREEK LAKES CG	65	Partial	East side is closed
		TEAL LAKE CG	41	Delayed	Expected to open 7/15.
		TEAL LAKE PICNIC Ground	0	Closed	Closed for entire season as trees are removed
		HIDDEN LAKES CG	9	Delayed	Expected to open 7/15.
		PINES CG	11	Closed	Closed for entire season as trees are removed.
White River	Dillon (near Dillon, Colorado) 970 468-5400	Peak One	79	Delayed	Expected to open by 7/3. Under contract.
		Pine Cove	33	Delayed	Expected to open by 7/3. Under contract.
		Windy Point Group	2	Delayed	Expected open by 6/15
		Lowry	24	Closed	
		Prospector	107	Closed	
		Blue River	24	Closed	
		Sapphire Point Overlook	4	Delayed	Expect Opening by 7/3.
		Giberson Bay Picnic/Day Use	3	Delayed	Expect Opening by 6/15. Under contract.

National Forest	Ranger District	NAME	Size (# of Units)	Type of Closure	Remarks
White River	Eagle/Holy Cross (near Minturn Colorado) 970 827 5715	Gold Park	11	Delayed	Expect to open by 7/3.
		Camp Hale Family	21	Delayed	Expect to open by 7/3
		East Fork at Camp Hale	2	Closed	
	Aspen/Sopris (near Aspen Colorado) 970 963-2266	Chapman CG & Group	96	Delayed	

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